

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An apparatus for dulling animal claws comprising:

a corrugated bundle having at least one liner wall and at least one rippled sheet coupled thereto; and

an abrasive surface formed on ~~at least one of~~ a face of the liner wall, ~~a face of the rippled sheet and a dulling element coupled to the corrugated bundle.~~

Claim 2 (cancelled):

Claim 3 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the abrasive surface is on the face of the at least one rippled sheet.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the abrasive surface is on the dulling element coupled to the corrugated bundle.

Claim 5 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a holder configured to receive the corrugated bundle, said holder having at least one cover flap that can be locked in an elevated position such that a portion of the cover flap extends upwardly to a higher elevation than the corrugated bundle.

Claim 6 (original): The apparatus of claim 5 wherein when the cover flap is locked in the elevated position, a surface of the cover flap forms an angle with a lateral plane of the cardboard holder between about 20 degrees to about 80 degrees.

Claim 7 (original): The apparatus of claim 5 further comprising at least one support flap formed on the holder, said support flap being configured to be insertable within an aperture of the cover flap to aid in locking the cover flap in said elevated position.

Claim 8 (original): The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the holder comprises a catch channel positioned proximate said cover flap for catching pieces of the corrugated bundle that can be scratched off by an animal.

Claim 9 (original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a holder configured to receive the corrugated bundle, said holder having at least one support member for raising an end of the holder such that when the holder is rested on a surface, said end of the holder is raised above another end of the holder.

Claim 10 (original): The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the support member is a flap having an aperture through which a protrusion from a wall or other rising structure can be extended to hang the flap on the protrusion.

Claim 11 (original): The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the support member is selectively positionable to extend downward from the holder.

Claim 12 (currently amended): A cardboard scratcher assembly for a cat comprising:

a cardboard scratcher;

an abrasive surface disposed within the cardboard scratcher ~~or on a dulling element proximate the cardboard scratcher on a face of~~ at least one rippled sheet of the cardboard scratcher; and

a holder for retaining the cardboard scratcher, said holder having a support member for raising a portion of the holder above a resting surface of the holder.

Claim 13 (original): The assembly of claim 12 wherein said holder has at least one cover flap for covering the cardboard scratcher during storage and wherein the

cover flap can be opened and locked in an elevated position such that a portion of the flap is raised to a higher elevation than the cardboard scratcher for blocking pieces of the cardboard scratcher from being propelled away from the holder by a cat.

Claim 14 (original): The assembly of claim 12 having at least one support member for raising an end of the holder above a resting surface.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method of dulling cat claws comprising:
providing a cardboard scratcher;
~~providing an abrasive surface comprising abrasive particulates or grains on at least one of the cardboard scratcher or a dulling element disposed proximate the cardboard scratcher a face of a liner wall within the cardboard scratcher;~~
providing a holder for retaining the cardboard scratcher, said holder having a support member for raising an end of the holder above a surface; and
allowing a cat to scratch said cardboard scratcher.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 15 further comprising placing an organic substance with said cardboard scratcher to induce the cat to scratch the cardboard scratcher.

Claim 17 (cancelled):

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the abrasive surface is formed on a face of a rippled sheet within the cardboard scratcher.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 15 wherein said holder also has cover flaps that are lockable in a raised position such that a portion of the flaps are elevated above the cardboard scratcher to help block cardboard pieces from being propelled away from the holder by a cat scratching the cardboard scratcher.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The method of claim 19 wherein said holder also comprises catch channels for collecting pieces of cardboard scratched away from the cardboard scratcher by the cat.